Appln. No. 10/600,492 Amendment dated January 12, 2005 Reply to Office Action of October 12, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

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Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An annular shaft flange for attachment to a shaft extending along a longitudinal axis, the shaft flange comprising:

a flange body having a first end face and a second end face being parallel and opposed, the first and second end faces being spaced to define an axial width of the shaft flange;

an inner curved engagement surface configured to contact an outer surface of the shaft when the shaft flange is attached to the shaft;

a first end and a second end formed on the flange body, the first and second ends being spaced from each other when the shaft flange is in an open position;

a first attachment projection extending from the first end of the flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft; and a second attachment projection extending from the second end of the flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft; and

a shaft engagement lip extending axially from the first end face of the flange body, the shaft engagement lip being integrally formed with both the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection, wherein the curved engagement surface is formed by both the shaft engagement lip and the flange body;

wherein the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection contact each other when the shaft flange is in the closed position;

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wherein when the flange body is in the closed position, the first attachment projection can be attached to the second attachment projection to retain the shaft flange in the closed position.

## Claims 13-14 (Cancelled)

- 15. (Currently Amended) The annular shaft flange of claim 14\_12 further comprising a rivet extending between the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection, wherein the rivet extends perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the shaft.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The annular shaft flange of claim 12 An annular shaft flange for attachment to a shaft extending along a longitudinal axis, the shaft flange comprising:

a flange body having a first end face and a second end face being parallel and opposed, the first and second end faces being spaced to define an axial with of the shaft flange, wherein the flange body is a one-piece member and includes a hinge formed opposite the first and second ends of the flange body;

an inner curved engagement surface configured to contact an outer surface of the shaft when the flange is attached to the shaft;

a first end and a second end formed on the flange body, the first and second ends being spaced from each other when the shaft flange is in an open position;

a first attachment projection extending from the first end of the

flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft; and

a second attachment projection extending from the second end of the

flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft,

wherein the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection contact each other when the shaft flange is in the closed position;

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wherein when the flange body is in the closed position, the first attachment projection can be attached to the second attachment projection to retain the shaft flange in the closed position.

- 17. (New) The annular shaft flange of claim 16 further comprising a shaft engagement lip extending axially from the first end face of the flange body, wherein the curved engagement surface is defined by both the shaft engagement lips and the flange body.
- 18. (New) The annular shaft flange of claim 17 wherein the shaft engagement lip is integrally formed with both the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection.
- 19. (New) The annular shaft flange of claim 18 further comprising a rivet extending between the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection.
- 20. (New) The annular shaft flange of claim 17 wherein the shaft engagement lip contacts the outer surface of the shaft when the shaft flange is attached to the shaft.
- 21. (New) The annular shaft flange of claim 17 wherein the shaft engagement lip has an axial width greater than the axial width of the shaft flange.